

Subject: Mexican Revolutionary coinage

Garza, J. Sanchez

1931-1936

[Mexico City, Mexico]

J. S. Garza
Apartado 111,
México, D.F.

January 28th, 1931.

Mr. Howland Wood,
c/o The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 156th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:-

Re. THE COINAGE OF THE MEXICAN REVOLUTIONISTS.

Allow me to inform you that I am a dealer of Mexican revolutionary coins, perhaps the only one in Mexico; therefore, frequently some of the local collectors ask me if I can secure copies of your valuable book on revolutionary coins, which so far is the best authority in the matter.

In view of the above, I would ask you if you care to appoint me your Mexican representative for the sale of said book. I have no idea as to how many books I might be able to sell, but I can safely say that they will be from 25 to 50 within say six months. I realize that this is not very good business for you, but I am constantly arousing interest here in Mexico along this hobby and suppose shortly the number of collectors will materially increase. *What is the best proposition you can make?*

On the other hand I suppose that outside of Mr. Hill, of San Francisco, there is no body else in the States to supply the needs of collectors, and though it is true that Mr. Hill comes here once a year and he usually buys from me all the rarities that I am able to dig out for him during the year, some times I feel he does not buy enough to supply the U.S. demand; hence, if I am not asking too much, of your kindness, would ask you to give me a list of the Mexican Revolutionary Coin collectors, so that I can get in touch with them (especially those of the East) directly. Suppose Mr. Hill supplies the collectors of the West particularly.

As a matter of fact I have been rather pressed by a number of Mexican collectors to publish a catalog of the revolutionary coins in Spanish; but you know perfectly well that it does not pay to do so, unless the publication is backed by some big organization and here in Mexico it is hard to obtain such backing. Useless to say that I have gathered quite a lot of valuable information on the subject, for I have made over thirty special trips to places where the coins were made, and really do not know what I am going to do about it. Frankly speaking one of the most expensive items is the question of the plates. The cut of the enclosed envelope cost about \$5.00 Mex. Cy., which is about Dls. 2.50.

Thanking you in advance, I am,
Yours very truly,

Encls.
JSG/-

J. S. Garza

LIGEROS APUNTES SOBRE LAS
MONEDAS DE LA REVOLUCION.

Años

- 1913 El Gral. Villa ordenó la acuñación de las primeras monedas en Parral, Chih. Valores, 2¢ cobre y 50¢ y \$1. plata.
- 1914 Por órdenes del mismo Gral. Villa se acuñaron en la Ciudad de Chihuahua monedas
1915 de cobre y plata como sigue: 5, 10 y 50¢ cobre y \$1. plata. De éstas últimas hay dos troqueles diferentes: unas que dicen MUERA HUERTA y otras Ejército del Norte. También existen unas monedas de cobre del tamaño de un peso con un aguila por un lado y balanzas por el otro.
- 1914 En la Ciudad de Durango se acuñaron monedas de 1¢ plomo y cobre, y de 5¢ cobre
1915 y plomo. Se conocen diferentes troqueles de estas monedas.
- 1915 En Cuencamé, Dgo. el Gral. Calixto Contreras mandó acuñar pesos de plata con la leyenda MUERA HUERTA. Se conocen algunos pesos de cobre de igual cuño.
- 1915 En Rosario, Sin. los Grales. Buelna y Carrasco mandaron acuñar varias monedas. No habiendo troquelador utilizaron monedas de las que circulaban en 1910, haciendo moldes de arena al efecto. Se conocen valores de 20¢, 50¢ y \$1. plata. Algunas de ellas tienen unas iniciales.
- 1915 En Aguascalientes durante la época de la Convención se acuñaron monedas de 1, 2, 5 y 20¢ en cobre. Se conocen ejemplares en plata.
- 1915 En Jalisco (probablemente en Guadalajara) se acuñaron monedas de 1, 2 y 5¢ cobre. Se dice que también se acuñaron unas monedas de \$1. plata, que por un lado tienen un aguila y por el otro un cadote al pie de un cañón.
- 1914 En el Estado de México se acuñaron monedas en diferentes lugares: Tenancingo,
1915 por orden del Gral. Solís, valores 5¢, 10¢ y 20¢ cobre. En Toluca, 5¢ de cartón redondas. En Texcoco (sin estar absolutamente seguros de ello) 1¢ barro. También se dice que en El Oro se acuñaron monedas de \$5 y \$10. oro.
- 1915 En México D.F. se acuñaron monedas de 1¢ y 2¢ cobre, por ordenes del Gral. Zapata.
- 1915 En Totela de Ocampo, Pue. el Gral. Juan Francisco Lucas mandó acuñar monedas de cobre de 2¢. Se conocen dos cuños diferentes. En Chiconcuautla, el mismo Gral. Lucas mandó acuñar monedas de 10¢ y 20¢ cobre, con la leyenda Brigada Francisco I. Madero, S.N. de P. (Sierra Norte de Puebla).
- 1914 El Gral. Zapata fué el más pródigo en la acuñación de monedas: se hicieron en
1915 Taxco, Atlixtec, Campo Morado, Estado de Guerrero, y en Jojuila, Tlalquilte-
1916 nango, etc. en cobre y plata. Hay muchos troqueles distintos. Algunos de
1917 ellos sumamente raros.
- 1915 Se dice que en Michoacán se acuñaron monedas de vaqueta y níquel por orden del Gral. Gertrudis Sánchez.
- 1915 En Oaxaca, por órdenes del Gral. Félix Díaz se acuñaron las siguientes monedas: cuadradas de 1, 3 centavos y redondas de 1, 3, 5, 10 y 20¢ cobre; de 50¢, \$1. \$2. \$5. plata; de \$5. \$10. y \$20. de plata doradas y de \$60. oro. Hay muchas variedades de troqueles.

En resumen actualmente se conocen alrededor de 150 a 200 monedas diferentes de la revolución, y de cuando en cuando aparecen nuevos ejemplares.

Si Ud. tiene monedas de los años arriba indicados y desea venderlas o cambiarlas, para tener mayor variedad o por estampillas, pistolas antiguas, etc., avísenos HOY MISMO lo que tenga y lo que quiera. Deseamos adquirir de 25 a 50 ejemplares de cada una de las monedas, cuyos valores hemos subrayado. Si puede Ud. aportar algún dato importante respecto a los lugares donde se acuñaron monedas, quienes ordenaron la acuñación o quienes hicieron los troqueles, le agradeceríamos infinito nos lo informe, pues tenemos en preparación el catálogo general ilustrado de LAS MONEDAS DE LA REVOLUCION, AÑOS DE 1913 A 1917, y queremos recopilar el mayor número de datos. Gracias.

Feb. 10, 1931

Mr. J. S. Garza

Apartado 111

Mexico, D.F.

Dear Sir:

I am very glad to receive your letter as I knew indirectly of you but never could get from Mr. Hill your name and address.

We here are interested in Mexican Revolutionary coins and I should like to have you quote prices on any such pieces that you have on hand or may acquire.

We still have about forty or fifty copies of my book on Revolutionary Coinage, in stock. We sell them for \$2.50 (United States dollars), and I could let you have about twenty or thirty copies at \$2.00 (United States dollars) each, in lots of say five - that is, \$10.00 for five copies. However, in Mexico, you should be able to sell them for more than \$2.50 each.

There are a few collectors of Mexican Revolutionary coins in this country. They are as follows:

Frank I. Liveright, Box 198, Newark, New Jersey
Gutttag Brothers, 42 Stone Street, New York, New York
George F. Brown, 408 City Hall, Chicago, Illinois
O. P. Eklund, 0711 Pittsburg Street, Spokane, Washington
E. Z. Little, 959 Hartson Avenue, " "
Farzan Zerbe, c/o Chase National Bank, 18 Pine Street, New York,
New York.

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I would not advise you to attempt to get out a catalogue of these Revolutionary coins unless you are prepared to lose quite a lot of money. Possibly, in the distant future, some organization in Mexico will undertake to do this.

Trusting to hear from you,

I am,

Sincerely yours,

Curator.

J. Sánchez Garza
Apartado #111,
México, D.F.

August 18, 1932.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Wood:-

In accordance with the wishes expressed in your letter of recent date, a few days ago I sent you a couple of the booklets "Historical Notes on Coins of the Mexican Revolution". They just came off the press and I regret to say that although the illustrations came out much better than in the first booklet, still there are quite a number of typographical errors, which I beg of you to overlook.

From the time elapsed since I thought it was going to be ready, you will easily realize that most of the difficulties encountered have been on the part of the cuts. You have no idea of the work I have had in getting nice clear cuts here in Mexico. As a matter of fact the work was done several times before anything passable was obtained.

Of course, you can about imagine all the criticism I have received on account of the book being written in English. On the other hand there are very few active collectors in this country and the expense of writing anything in Spanish is not justified. You even told me some time ago that even in English it would not pay, and I know that is absolutely true. Nevertheless I wanted to do something in behalf of numismatics and I have accomplished it.

Now I am seriously considering publishing something in Spanish, more or less on the same style, but containing all the illustrations which appear in your book and my notes and the only thing that holds me back is the idea of the illustrations contained in your book. Could it possible for you to lend me for a certain consideration those cuts. I am only thinking of making a small number of booklets, say about 200 or 300 and really the expense of having those cuts made destroys my plans. My idea is to show all the coins so far known, medals and give lists both of the paper and cardboard money of the revolution.

Please let me hear from you at an early date, so that I can decide whether to go ahead with the work or forget about it.

Sincerely yours,

J. Sánchez Garza

August 24, 1932.

Mr. J. Sanchez Garza
Apartado 111
Mexico, D. F.

Dear Mr. Garza:

I am very glad to receive your letter as well as the two copies of the Historical Notes on the Coins of the Mexican Revolution. The illustrations, for the most part, are an improvement over the first edition, but as you yourself know these could still be improved upon. In some instances I think it is due to the photographs. It is absolutely necessary to get the very finest photographs possible. Yes, I agree with you that it would probably be a labor of love to publish the book in Spanish, as I do not think you could sell very many copies. I think you are to be praised most highly and in no way condemned for what you have done.

The illustrations in my book were made by a photo-gelatine process. No half tones were made. Negatives were made direct from photographs on to gelatine and impressions made from the gelatine. This is the best method but it is expensive. The illustrations and the printing of 800 copies cost \$229.00, which I am inclined to think would be far more than you would want to spend. I very much doubt if you could get this work done in Mexico and probably if done in this country there would be a heavy duty as well. The gelatine films for my book do not last and are no longer in existence. The whole process would have to be done over and the printing of 200 would probably cost \$175.00.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

February 14, 1936.

Mr. J. Sanchez Garza
3A Cedro No. 115
Mexico, D. F.

Dear Mr. Garza:

I was very glad after a number of years of correspondence to meet you and trust that you will be able to get up here again fairly soon. I have just heard from Mr. D. M. Muirhead who says he has just handed his collection of Mexican coins to Glendining and Company, 7 Argyll St., London W. for sale by auction. The sale should take place in possibly seven or eight weeks.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

February 21, 1936.

J. Sanchez Garza
3 A Cedro No. 115
Mexico, D. F.

Dear Mr. Garza:

Do you know if any catalogue has been published in Mexico of the stamps issued during the revolution of 1913-17, especially one that goes into the question in detail. If there is such a catalogue and you can get it I would be very grateful if you could send it to me.

Very truly yours,

HW: JG

Curator